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A

Short History

OF

ALGIERS,

WITH A CONCISE VIEW OF

THE ORIGIN OF THE RUPTURE

BETWEEN

ALGIERS

AND THE

United States.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A COPIOUS APPENDIX:

CONTAINING

Letters from Captains Penrose, M'Shane, and sundry other American Captives, with a description of the Treatment those Prisoners experienced.

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HISTORY OF ALGIERS.

CHAP. I.

General description of the Country of Algiers. Climate. Sea-coast. Principal Cities.

ALGIERS is a country which derives its name from its metropolis; and extends four hundred and eighty miles in length from east to west along the northern coast of Africa. Its utmost breadth is three hundred and twenty miles, but at the distance of an hundred miles from the sea-coast, that part of Africa becomes a barren desert, almost utterly uninhabitable either by man or beast. Algiers is situated between thirty-two and thirty-seven degrees of north latitude, which corresponds to that of the United States, from Virginia to Carolina, inclusive. It is bounded on the north, by the Mediterranean sea; on the south, by mount Atlas; on the east, by the country of Tunis; and on the west, by the river Mulvia, which separates it from the empire of Morocco.

The principal rivers, which water the territory of Algiers, rise in Mount Atlas, and run by a northerly direction into the

Mediterranean sea. They are seven in number. None of them has a long course, or even is navigable; at least none of them is made use of in navigation. It is however likely that they might be made use of for this purpose, were the inhabitants of a more intelligent and industrious character; for some of them are of a tolerable depth. Such is the gross ignorance of the natives in whatever concerns domestic improvement, that there is not a single bridge over any of these rivers. When they are to be crossed, the traveller hath sometimes to wander for several miles in search of a ford, as ferry boats are unknown. If a heavy rain happens to fall, he is forced to wait, till the river returns to its usual size.

This country consists of eighteen provinces. The climate is remarkably delightful. The air is pure and serene. The soil is covered with almost a perpetual verdure. Extreme heat is not common. This description applies to the lands on the sea-coast; for as we advance into the country, the soil becomes more parched and barren. Indeed a considerable part of the back country is a savage desert, abounding with lions, tigers, leopards, buffaloes, wild boars, and porcupines.

And it must be acknowledged, that these animals are not the least amiable inhabitants of this country.

There are few towns of any consequence, though when successively under the dominion of Carthage and Rome, it abounded with populous cities. Bona is supposed to be the same place with the ancient Hippo, a sea-port built by the ancients. It was formerly the capital of the province of Bona. It lies on the Mediterranean sea, and there is a coral fishery near it. It is a town of no importance, and of slender population. In this part of the world, elegant architecture has, for many centuries, been utterly forgotten or despised. The buildings of Bona, as every where else, are therefore mean. It is exposed to the incursions of the Arabs. The name of this people is used by travellers in a very indefinite manner. Algiers is at the distance of some hundreds of leagues from Arabia: but as this part of Africa was formerly conquered by that nation, under the banners of Mahomet, the name is still applied to a race of tawny and independent barbarians, who wander in gangs about the country, and unite the double professions of a shepherd and a robber. Bona was formerly a magnificent

city. Its grandeur is now only to be traced in the ruins of a monastery. It has a fortress, and a garrison of three hundred Turks, as the banditti chuse to call themselves; a Turk being the most reputable title in that country. This circumstance is alone sufficient to ascertain the depth of is wretchedness. These adventurers, however are not Turks, but the sweepings of all nations blended together. They are commanded by an aga, who is likewise governor of the town. Bona was taken by Charles V. in his expedition to Tunis, but was not long after recovered by its former masters.

Constantia is situated on the river Sef Gomar, forty-eight miles from the sea-coast. It received its present name from that of a princess, the daughter of the emperor Constantine, to whom it was indebted for magnificence. The situation is on a peninsula, difficult of access, except towards the south-west. It is one mile in circumference, well fortified, and contains many fragments of ancient architecture. In particular there is part of a noble bridge; and near it is a large subterraneous aqueduct, which terminates in a cascade. State criminals are sometimes precipitated down this place, and dashed to

pieces against the rocks at its bottom. A bey resides here, and has under his command three hundred Turkish horse, and one thousand five hundred Moorish soldiers. This is the account given by travellers, though it is not likely that the number of the garrison is always the same. In details of this kind, we must be contented with the best materials that can be had, though sometimes not entirely above exception. The inhabitants of Constantia are said to be opulent and haughty. This city was formerly the residence of a race of kings who governed the province of Constantina, of which it is the metropolis; but in the year 1520, the whole territory was conquered by Barbarossa, that distinguished scourge of mankind, who annexed it to the government of Algiers. Some splendid ruins exist in the vicinity of Constantina. Upon the sea-coast, at a small distance from it, are the traces of a Roman colony, anciently called Colo. It is situated on a high rock, and has a garrison. Adjoining to it is a French factory, to which the Moors bring hides, wax, and wool, for sale. At no great distance are the remains of the ancient city of Stora. It is said that the mountainous part of this territory is inhabited by a hardy people.

who can raise forty thousand fighting men. It is not probable, that those writers who made this assertion had ever an opportunity of counting their number. History abounds with such random calculations. The vagabond who founded Rome has been supplied by the generosity of succeeding historians, with an army about equally numerous, though it is, at the same time, acknowledged, that his kingdom was only seven or eight miles in length.

Gigeri is situated about sixteen miles form Bona. It contains about fifteen hundred houses, and the inhabitants are very poor. It is defended by a fort and a small garrison. The natives of this part of the country are independent and barbarous. They retire, when circumstances require it, to inaccessible fastnesses, and set the dey of Algiers at defiance. Ships, when wrecked on this coast, are plundered, and the crews are treated with the utmost savageness. In this respect, however, the natives of the territory of Gigeri cannot differ much for the worse from the rest of their countrymen; nor is the practice peculiar to Barbary. Scenes of the same kind are frequently acted, and if any thing can be still more infamous, are almost always acted with impunity, on the

coast of Cornwall, and other maritime counties of England.* The French, in the year 1666, had begun to fortify Gigeri. They were driven from it by the Algerines, with the loss of their cannon, and most of their effects.

Bugia was formerly the capital of a kingdom of the same name. It stands at the mouth of the river Major, or Zinganor, about twenty leagues to the eastward of Algiers. It is little better than a heap of ruins; a description which applies almost to every town in that part of the world. It has three castles, two at the port, and one upon a rock, at a small distance behind them. In the year 1671, a British admiral took or destroyed, in this harbor, nine Algerine ships of war. It is extremely seldom, that an admiral has been charged with such a laudable commission.

Stessa or Steffa is situated in a fertile valley, sixty miles to the south of Bugia, and fifteen miles from the sea. It exhibits only the melancholy ruins of its former magnificence, containing about three hundred miserable families.

* There is a story of an English parson, whose congregation, during the time of divine service, heard of a shipwreck. In spite of his utmost efforts to detain them, the whole assembly rushed out of the church in a body, to divide the plunder.

Tebef was formerly a flourishing city, but is at present extremely reduced. Zamoura is in the same condition. It is defended by a fort. Couco was once the metropolis of a kingdom of the same name. Its sovereigns were in the habit of forming alliances with the court of Spain. For this reason, the Algerines, in the beginning of the seventeenth century, ravaged the whole country, and destroyed every town in it. The inhabitants have still supported their independence, by taking refuge in the mountainous parts of the country, which are said to be very fertile; but the Algerines prevent them from holding any intercourse with foreign nations. Biscara has a fort and garrison. One of the chief employments of the people here, is to catch and tame lions, tigers, and other beasts of prey, which they carry for sale to Algiers. Necanz is one of the pleasantest towns in Barbary. It is watered by an agreeable river, whose banks are adorned with a variety of beautiful trees. The town contains a magnificent mosque and a college for the education of Mahometan students.

Oran is situated about two hundred and fifty miles west of Algiers. It lies partly on a plain, and partly on the ascent of a

hill. It is a mile and an half in circumference and tolerably fortified. But it is unfortunately commanded by some of the neighboring eminences; so that a garrison of ten or twelve thousand men is necessary to defend it with success against a skilful enemy. As the Spanish coasts and merchant ships had suffered much from the corsairs of this port, Ferdinand, king of Spain, determined to attempt its reduction. For this purpose, he transported into Africa an army, under the command of his prime minister cardinal Ximenes, one of those few statesmen, who have not deserved the detestation of mankind. The wonted good fortune of Ximenes did not, at this juncture, desert him. He had maintained a correspondence with some of the people of Oran; and when the Moors sailed out to attack the Spanish army, their perfidious countrymen shut the gates against them. Ximenes killed four thousand of the Barbarians, and set at liberty twenty thousand Christian slaves. The Algerines, during almost two hundred years, made frequent and unsuccessful attempts to recover the town. At last, in 1708, they retook it. In June, 1732, a Spanish army was disembarked not far from Oran. The Turkish commander,

his troops, and the inhabitants were seized with a panic, and abandoned their fortifications without much resistance. The victors found in the place an hundred and forty-six pieces of cannon, besides mortars, and at least fifty ship loads of provisions. This latter supply contributed much to the preservation of their new conquest. Without it they must have run the greatest hazard of perishing in the midst of success; as a tempest, which lasted for several days, cut off all intercourse between the army upon shore, and the fleet at sea. The Moors not long after attacked the Spaniards with great fury, but were finally repulsed with much slaughter on both sides. Oran is still possessed by Spain.

Tremesen was formerly the capital town of a kingdom of that name. It is situated ninety miles south-west of Oran, surrounded by a strong wall and well fortified. It has five gates with draw-bridges before them, and a castle containing handsome barracks for the Janisaries who are in garrison. Tremesen while a metropolis was a splendid city. It contained one hundred and fifty mosques, and one hundred and sixty public baths. Since it ceased to be the seat of an independent government,

it hath shrunk into ruins and desolation. The mosques are reduced to eight, and its public baths to four. The inhabitants are extremely indigent.

Mostagan stands fifty miles east of Oran. This town is built in the form of a theatre opening to the sea, and surrounded on every other side with rocks that hang over it. The ruins of an old Moorish castle stand in a space between the rocks, and there is a strong stone wall towards the port, with a modern built castle, garrisoned by a number of Turks. The citadel is erected upon the summit of one of the rocks, and commands both city and territory. The haven is commodious, and the town is well supplied with water. The neighboring mountains are inhabited by a people called Magarabas, who live in tents, possess a great number of flocks, and pay to the dey of Algiers twelve thousand crowns annually. There is a handsome mosque in this town.

Tenez is situated about one hundred miles to the eastward of Oran, twenty miles east of Mostagan, and at a league distant from the sea, where it has a convenient port. There is a castle that was once a royal palace, and in which the governor resides. The fortifications are

strong, the garrison numerous, and the neighboring territory fertile. This was supposed to have been the Julia Cæsarea of the ancients.

Sercelli lies between Tenez and Algiers, about twenty-four miles to the westard of the latter. It is defended by a Turkish garrison, and has a port, which will only admit of small vessels. This was anciently a large and populous city, but is at present a poor and desolate place.

The southern part of the Algerine territories is inhabited by a wandering race of people, who, like the Tartars, roam from place to place, and live in tents. The country itself is hilly, a branch of mount Atlas running through it. The only riches of the people are their numerous flocks and herds. The government exacts a tribute from them, but a bey is obliged to come annually at the head of an army to collect it; and many of them retire to inaccessible places till the troops are withdrawn, in order to evade the payment.

Algiers itself stands on a bay of the Mediterranean sea. It is built on the side of a mountain. The houses rise gradually from the sea-shore up the ascent, in the form of an amphitheatre. The town appears beautiful at a distance, when ap-

proaching from the water. The mosques, castles, and other public buildings have a striking effect; but the streets are narrow, and the houses mean. The roofs are flat, so that the people can visit each other, at a considerable distance in the town without going into the streets. The walls are about a league in circumference, and defended by some square towers and bastions. The port has a pier about five hundred paces in length, which extends from the continent to a small rocky island called the Lantern. On this island, there is a castle with three lines of brass cannon. The town has five gates, ten great mosques, and fifty lesser ones, and is computed to contain an hundred thousand inhabitants. The fortifications are extensive and strong. The Christian slaves are often employed in removing stones from a quarry, at some distance in the country, which they lay on the sand, to defend the mole from the impetuosity of the waves. This laborious work is never at an end, because the sea constantly washes away the stones, and makes a perpetual supply necessary. One street, which is broad and handsome, passes through the town from east to west; but all the other streets are narrow, incommodious, and dirty. There are said

to be fifteen thousand houses, which are commonly built round a small square with a paved court in the centre. Around this court is a double range of galleries, one above the other, and both supported by columns. The palace of the dey stands in the centre of the city. This building is very extensive, and surrounded by two superb galleries, supported by marble pillars. There is a law here, by which any woman convicted of amorous correspondence with a Christian, is thrown into the sea, with her head tied up in a sack, unless her lover chuses to turn Mahometan. Examples of this kind are not unfrequent, as the fair sex, in that part of the world, are said to be remarkably frail. Six of the baths have been converted into prisons for the Christian slaves. In each of these, there is a chapel for the free exercise of their religion. Every slave is let out at a certain hour in the morning, and must return at a stated hour at night, in order to be locked up. Each of them is allowed a matrass and a rug for a bed. There are several tolerable edifices without the walls of the town, which add to the beauty of the environs. Among these are a variety of Turkish sepulchres and monuments. One of these monuments contains six magnifi-

cent tombs of a circular figure. They were erected to the memory of six deys, who were, in the course of a few days, successively elected and murdered. There is perhaps no nation in the world from which we may not learn some useful lesson. With respect to the burial of their dead, travellers inform us, that the Mahometans discover a degree of delicacy, of which Christians have no conception. In our church yards, nothing is more common, and surely nothing can be more completely shocking, than to see graves broke up, a second time, before the person has returned to his original dust; and the remains of the dead are tossed about with as little ceremony as possible. This wretched violation of decency arises from the orthodox desire of being buried in holy ground; a practice which has no doubt been encouraged by the parties concerned, for the purpose of exacting a high price. Exorbitant demands of this kind have not long since been paid within less than an hundred miles of Philadelphia. The Algerines, and the other professors of the Mahometan religion, would regard it as an act of the most barbarious sacrilege, to disturb the remains of the dead, by opening their graves, at any distance of

time, or upon any pretence whatever. Hence their burial grounds in the neighborhood of a large city are sometimes ten miles in extent.

Algiers had formerly nothing but rain water. A Moor, who had been driven from Spain, constructed two aqueducts, by which it is now supplied with abundance of excellent water from the adjacent mountains. The country around this city is very fertile. Country-seats, gardens, and groves of trees are said to be numerous. The Algerines are unacquainted with the art of pruning and grafting trees. Their gardens are not walled, but fenced round with a peculiar species of fig-trees, which from their prickles, and the compactness with which their branches interweave, are well adapted for that purpose. Among other rich tracts in the province of Algiers Proper, the great plain of Mettijah is admired for its astonishing fertility. It is fifty miles in length, twenty in breadth, and includes many villas, fragrant groves, and delightful gardens. The soil produces such a profusion of the most delicious fruits, rice, roots, and grain of every species, that the inhabitants enjoy annually two, and frequently three crops. The hot baths of Meerega, in the neighborhood of this city,

are natural curiosities. The principal one is twelve feet square and four deep. The water is very hot, and when it has filled the larger bason, runs through into another of a smaller size, where the Jews bathe, as they are not permitted to use the same bath with the Mahometans. These hot fountains are conjectured to proceed from the great quantities of sulphur, nitre, and other inflammable substances in the bowels of the earth. To this cause likewise have been ascribed those earthquakes, to which the whole country, and Algiers in particular, are frequently subjected.

CHAP. II.

Customs. Religion. Government. Land Forces, Corsairs.

THE present inhabitants of the territory of Algiers are composed of a multitude of different nations. Among these are the Moors, or Morescos, who were driven out of Spain about the end of the sixteenth century; and the Arabians, who trace their descent from those disciples of Mahomet who formerly subdued this country. Levantines, Turks, Jews, and Christian slaves, with a croud, formed of the posterity of all these different people, make up the rest of the population. The Moors

and Arabs are the most numerous. The former compose the great body of the inhabitants of the towns. But it may be readily supposed, that amidst such a variety of different races, immense numbers cannot be said to belong to any particular tribe or nation whatever. In this country there are many wandering bands of shepherds, who live together in camps, and remove from one place to another as they want pasture for their herds and flocks, or as any other accidental circumstance happens to make it necessary. They sometimes pay rent to landlords, in corn, fruit, honey, wax, and other productions of the same kind. The dey likewise demands a tribute. The excellence of the climate renders this simple way of living tolerable, though the tents of these people are mean, their utensils of little value, and their lodging filthy. The family and their domestic animals lie promiscuously in the tents together, except the dogs, which are left on the outside as guards. They raise considerable numbers of bees and of silkworms. They subsist chiefly on bread, rice and fruit. Wine and spiritous liquors are almost entirely unknown.

The dress of the men is only a long piece of coarse cloth, wrapped round the

shoulders, and falling down to their ankles, with a cap of the same stuff. The women pay some more attention to the ornamental part of dress. The children are suffered to go stark naked till seven or eight years of age. The Sheik or chief of a tribe wears a cap of fine cloth. These people are usually called Arabs; their customs, language and religion bear a strict affinity with those of Arabia. They are robust and of a swarthy complexion. The men are active, the women prolific, and the children healthy. They have neither to encounter the hardships incident to the life of a North-American savage, nor are their constitutions enfeebled, as is sometimes the case in manufacturing towns, by sedentary and unhealthy employments. When a young man would marry, he drives a number of cattle to the hut where the parents of his mistress reside. The bride is set on horseback and led home, amidst the shouts of a croud of young people, who have been invited to the nuptial feast. When she arrives at the hut of her lover, a mixture of milk and honey is given her to drink, and a song suitable to the occasion is sung. She then alights, and is presented with a stick, which she thrusts into the ground, and repeats some lines to

the following effect: ' As this stick is fastened in the earth, so I am in duty bound to my husband; as nothing but violence can remove it, so death alone shall force me from his love.' She then drives his flock to water and back again, to shew her willingness to perform any duty that he may assign her. These previous ceremonies being settled, all the company enter the hut, and the evening concludes with the greatest festivity that these people are capable of enjoying. Subsequent to the marriage, the wife is obliged to wear a vail. She never stirs from the hut for the space of a month, after that time. These are the ceremonies reported to be customary in celebrating a marriage among the pastoral tribes of Barbary. But narratives of this kind must be received, as bishop Burnet admonishes the reader, to peruse his History of his own times, viz. *with some grains of allowance.* Such uniform regularity is hardly to be expected among a race of wandering shepherds. Perhaps an African critic would turn from our description of his country with as much disdain, as a citizen of the United States feels in attempting to peruse a frothy volume respecting North-America, fabricated by some of the professional

book-builders of Paris or of London.*

* The following curious circumstances may serve to shew what kind of opinion ought to be entertained of the authors of oriental travels. In the year 1783, an adventurer, who called himself a modern Greek, published a small volume entitled *the life of Ali Bey.* It contained some romantic stories, which the author attested as an eye-witness. About this time the court of France had dispatched into Egypt Monsieur Savary, a gentleman of some note in the republic of letters. His business was to obtain authentic information concerning the ancient and modern situation of that country. He returned, and in due time published two large volumes, pregnant with learning and sublimity. Monsieur Volney soon after entered the lists as a third champion. He made a very severe attack on the veracity of his French predecessor. In particular, he upbraided him with having stolen a great number of pages, from a very contemptible imposture which pretended to be a *life of Ali Bey.* This biographer, as an evidence, perhaps, of his classical pedigree, had assumed the name of *Cosmopolitos.* Volney added, that a copy of the book having by chance come to Egypt, while he was there, the European merchants could not help expressing their surprize, that their countrymen were stupid enough to digest such ridiculous reveries. Monsieur Savary did not long survive this humiliating discovery. But the 'Modern Greek' replied in a volume of letters, which he inscribed by permission to Sir William Fordyce, an eminent English physician. In this work he affirms that Volney himself wrote HIS travels *in a garret at London.* BELLA! HORRIDA BELLA!

It is certainly, though not generally known, that the letters of Lady Mary Wortly Montague are the offspring of a mercantile pen. Even Baron

The Moors or Arabs, for the two names appear to be synonimous, are good horsemen, but great thieves. Their principal arms are a short lance and a scymitar, tho' they are likewise acquainted with the bow and the musket. It is dangerous to travel in the country, for fear of being robbed; but persons are said to be in safety, if attended by one of the Mahometan Marabouts, or hermits. The inhabitants of the sea-coast are perfectly versant in the use of fire-arms.

Algiers retains the title of a kingdom; an epithet which might, without regret, be expunged from every human vocabulary. It is, however, a military republic, though it certainly can reflect no lustre on that species of government. The national ordinances run in these words: '*We, the great and small members of the mighty and invincible militia of Algiers*,' &c. The dey is elected by a divan composed from the army. He seldom secures his office without tumult and bloodshed; and he often falls by the dagger of an assassin. This sovereign may, with peculiar propriety, adopt the expression of one of the heroes

Tott, and Mr. Bruce, though writers of *comparative* authenticity, require in the reader, strong and frequent doses of faith.

of Ossian: '*I was born in the midst of battles, and my steps must move in blood to the tomb.*' The way in which his authority is exercised, corresponds with that by which it has been obtained. When Mr. Bruce, as British resident at Algiers, had occasion to visit the dey, he sometimes found him in his hall of audience, with his clothes all bespattered with blood, like those of a carcase butcher. It is a very frequent amusement with him, to cause the heads of his subjects to be struck off in his presence. Mr. Bruce said, that he knew of one man, who was executed, for no greater offence than because a gun-flint was found upon him. His indictment and trial were very concise. '*You rascal, what business had you with a flint, unless you were going to conspire against the state.*'

The aga of the Janisaries is the officer next to the dey in dignity and power. He enjoys his post but two months, and then retires upon a pension. The other officers of importance are, a secretary of state, 24 chiah bassas, or colonels, subordinate to the aga, 800 senior captains, and 400 lieutenants. Among these officers, the right of seniority is strictly observed. A breach of this point would be expected to produce a revolt among the soldiers, and might

perhaps cost the dey his life. Besides these officers, there are others belonging to the Turkish forces, who form a separate body. The dey has a corps of guards; a very necessary, though sometimes a fruitless precaution; as any private soldier who has the courage to murder him, stands an equal chance of becoming his successor. Experiments of this description are sometimes made. Since the beginning of the present century, six private soldiers entered into a conspiracy to kill a dey of one of the states of Barbary. They gave him a mortal wound in his palace, and in the midst of a croud of people. He expired, exclaiming, '*Has nobody the courage to kill a villain?*' One of the conspirators, the intended successor, instantly ascended the throne, and brandishing his naked scymitar, declared, '*that he would do justice to all!*' His five associates went about the hall to inforce the title of their new master; and none present seemed to give themselves any disturbance about what had happened. He kept his situation unmolested, for about ten minutes, till an old veteran unobserved took aim with a musket or blunderbuss, and shot him dead. Upon this, the five others were immediately dispatched by the persons present.

But what shewed the nature of the government in its proper light was the observation of the new dey. He said, that if the usurper could have held his place for twenty minutes longer, he would have obtained the throne.

The people of Algiers in general speak a compound of Arabic, Moresco, and the remains of the ancient Phœnician languages. The natives of all denominations, for the most part, understand the *Lingua Franca.* This is a kind of dialect, which, without being the proper language of any country on the coast of the Mediterranean sea, has a kind of universal currency all over that quarter of the world, as the channel of information for people, who cannot understand each other through any medium but itself. The public business of the nation is transacted in the Turkish tongue, in which also the records are kept. It is curious, that in conversation, a Turk transposes his nouns and verbs, in the same way that the Greek and Latin writers have done. Some of our modern critics have been woefully perplexed in attempting to explain this practice, which they seem to consider as peculiar to those two ancient languages. Had they been acquainted with the circumstance just now

mentioned, they might readily have solved some of their doubts by a voyage to Constantinople.

In Algiers, both men and women spend a great part of their time in indolence; the men, in drinking coffee and smoaking; and the women, in dressing, bathing, visiting the tombs of their relations, and sauntering in their gardens. The Algerines by their law may have four wives, but they usually content themselves with two or three at the most. The husband seldom sees his wife before marriage, but accepts her upon the description of a female confident. When the match is agreed upon, the bridegroom sends a present of fruits and sweetmeats to the bride, and entertains her relations with a feast and musical entertainment.

The militia who elect the dey are either Turks or renegado Christians. Their number has been variously stated by different authors from six thousand five hundred to twelve thousand. The dey pays no other revenue to the grand seignior, than that of a certain number of handsome youths, and some other annual presents. His income is more or less in proportion to his opportunities of plundering his neighbors or his subjects. Dr. Shaw says,

that the taxes of the whole kingdom produce yearly to the dey but about three hundred thousand dollars. He conjectures that the eighth share of the prizes, the property of persons who die without children, and to whom the dey falls heir, with the presents from foreign nations, and his private acts of robbery at home, extend to an equal sum. It is easy to see that this calculation must be extremely questionable. The tyrant himself can hardly be supposed capable to give a distinct estimate.

The Mufti, the Cadi, and the great Marabout, are the principal ecclesiastics. The first is the high priest of their religion; the second, the supreme judge in ecclesiastical causes, and in such civil matters as the civil power does not interpose in: the third is the chief of an order of saints, or hermits. These three persons are distinguished by the largeness of their turbans. They sit in the divan, a little below the dey, on his right hand. The divan itself consists of about two thousand Turkish officers and soldiers.

The common punishment at Algiers, for offences not capital, is the bastinado; for those, which are so, the bow-string, which two people pull different ways, with all their

strength, so that the criminal is instantly dispatched. The Christian slaves are liable to a variety of punishments. Sometimes they are burned, or rather roasted alive: at others they are impaled; this is done, by placing the offender on the end of a sharp stake, which is thrust up his posteriors close by the back-bone, till it appears above his shoulders. Slaves are sometimes cast over the walls of a town upon iron hooks: these catch by the jaws, by the ribs, or some other part of the body; and the sufferers have been known to hang thus for several days, alive, and in the most exquisite torture. Crucifixion, by nailing the hands and feet to walls, is also practised.

A Moor, convicted of house-breaking, hath his right hand cut off and fastened about his neck: he is then led through the city on an ass, with his face towards its tail. Persons of distinction, for crimes against the state, are placed between two boards, and sawed asunder. Women, detected in adultery, are fixed by their necks to a pole, and held under water till they are suffocated.

When an Algerine pirate takes a prize, he examines into the quality and circumstances of the prisoners. If he disbelieves the account that they give of themselves,

they are bastinadoed, till he has met with an agreeable answer. Having obtained what information he is able, he brings them on shore, after having stripped them almost naked. He carries them directly to the palace of the dey, where the European consuls assemble, to see if any of the prisoners belong to their respective nations, who are at peace with Algiers. In that case, they reclaim them provided that they were only passengers; but if they have served on board of the ships of any people at war with 'the mighty and invincible militia,' they cannot be discharged without payment of the full ransom.

Matters are thus settled between the dey and the consuls, what part of the prisoners are to be set at liberty, and what part are to be considered as slaves. The dey has next his choice of every eighth slave. He generally chuses the masters, surgeons, carpenters, and most useful hands belonging to the several prizes. Besides his eighth, he lays claim to all prisoners of quality, for whom a superior ransom is to be expected. The rest are left to the corsair and his owners. They are carried to the slave-market; the crier proclaims their rank, profession, and circumstances, and the price set upon each

of them. They are then led to the court before the palace of the dey, and there sold to the best bidder. If any sum is offered beyond the price first set upon them, it belongs to the government. The captors and owners have only that which was originally set upon the slaves. For this practice of buying and selling slaves, we are not entitled to charge the Algerines with any exclusive degree of barbarity. The Christians of Europe and America carry on this commerce an hundred times more entensively than the Algerines. It has received a recent sanction from the immaculate *Divan* of Britain. Nobody seems even to be surprised by a diabolical kind of advertisements, which, for some months past, have frequently adorned the newspapers of Philadelphia. The French fugitives from the West-Indies have brought with them a croud of slaves. These most injured people sometimes run off, and their master advertises a reward for apprehending them. At the same time, we are commonly informed, that his sacred name is marked in capitals, on their breasts; or in plainer terms, it is stamped on that part of the body with a red hot iron. Before therefore we reprobate the ferocity of the Algerines, we should en-

quire whether it is not possible to find, in some other regions of the globe, a systematic brutality still more disgraceful?

CHAP. III.

Origin of the present government of Algiers. Expedition of CHARLES *V.*

ALGIERS had undergone a variety of revolutions in its form of government, previous to the beginning of the sixteenth century, which it is not within the plan of this sketch to describe. But about that time a sudden revolution happened, which, by rendering the states of Barbary formidable to the Europeans, has made their history worthy of more attention. Horuc and Hayradin, the sons of a potter in the isle of Lesbos, prompted by a restless and enterprising spirit, forsook their father's profession, ran to sea, and joined a crew of pirates. They soon distinguished themselves by their valor and activity, and becoming masters of a small brigantine, supported their infamous trade with such conduct and success, that they assembled a fleet of twelve galleys, besides many vessels of smaller force. Of this fleet, Horuc, the elder brother, called Barbarossa from the red color of his beard, was admiral, and Hayradin second in command. Their

names soon became terrible from the straits of the Dardanelles to those of Gibraltar. Together with their power their ambitious views extended, and while acting as corsairs, they assumed the ideas, and acquired the talents of conquerors: they often carried the prizes, which they took on the coast of Spain and Italy, into the ports of Barbary. The convenient situation of these harbors, lying so near the greatest commercial states at that time in Christendom, made the brothers wish for an establishment in that country. An opportunity of accomplishing this project, presented itself, and they did not suffer it to pass unimproved. Eutemi, king of Algiers, having attempted several times, without success, to take a fort, which the Spanish governors of Oran had built not far from his capital, applied to Barbarossa. The corsair, leaving his brother Hayradin with the fleet, marched at the head of five thousand men to Algiers. Such a force gave him the command of the town. He secretly murdered the monarch whom he had come to assist, and proclaimed himself king in his stead. The authority which he had usurped, he established by arts suited to the genius of the people whom he had to govern; by liberality without bounds to

those who favored his promotion, and by cruelty no less unbounded to all whom he had any reason to mistrust. He continued to infest the coast of Spain and Italy with fleets which resembled the armaments of a great monarch, rather than the squadrons of a pirate. Their frequent and cruel devastations obliged Charles V. about the beginning of his reign, to furnish the Marques de Comares, governor of Oran, with troops sufficient to attack him. That officer executed the commission with such spirit, that Barbarossa's forces being vanquished in several encounters, he himself was shut up in Tremesen, and in attempting to make his escape was fortunately slain.

His brother Hayradin, known likewise by the name of Barbarossa, assumed the sceptre of Algiers. He carried on his naval robberies with great vigour, and extended his conquest on the continent of Africa. But perceiving that the Moors and Arabs submitted to his government with the utmost reluctance, and being afraid that his continual depredations would one day, draw upon him the arms of the Christians, he put his dominions under the protection of the grand seignior, and received from him a body of Turkish soldiers

sufficient for his security against his domestic as well as foreign enemies. At last, the infamy, or, as Dr. Robertson calls it, the *fame* of his exploits daily increasing, Solyman offered him the command of the Turkish fleet; and Hayradin on the other hand, justly dreading the consequences of the tyranny of his officers over the Algerines, sought the protection of the grand seignior. This was readily granted, and himself appointed bashaw or viceroy of Algiers; by which means he received such considerable reinforcements, that the unhappy Algerines durst not make the least complaint; and such numbers of Turks resorted to him, that he was not only capable of keeping the Moors and Arabs in subjection at home, but of annoying the Christians at sea.

Hayradin set about building a strong mole for the safety of his ships. In this he employed thirty thousand Christain slaves, whom he obliged to work, without intermission, for three years, in which time the work was completed. Hayradin soon became dreaded not only by the Arabs and Moors, but also by the maritime Christian powers, especially the Spaniards. The viceroy failed not to acquaint the grand seignior with his success,

and obtained from him a fresh supply of money, by which he was enabled to build strong forts, and to erect batteries on all places that might favor the landing of an enemy. All these have since received greater improvements from time to time, as often as there was occasion for them.

In the mean time the sultan, either out of a sense of the great services of Hayradin, or perhaps out of jealousy lest he should make himself independent, raised him to the dignity of bashaw of the empire, and appointed Hassan-Aga, a Sardinian renegado, to succeed him as bashaw of Algiers. Hassan had no sooner taken possession of his new government, than he began to pursue his ravages on the Spanish coast with greater fury than ever; extending them to the ecclesiastical state, and other parts of Italy. Pope Paul III. alarmed at this proceeding, exhorted the emperor Charles V. to send a powerful fleet to suppress those frequent piracies: and, that nothing might be wanting to render the enterprize successful, a bull was published by his holiness, wherein a plenary absolution of sins, and the crown of martyrdom, were promised to all those who either fell in battle or were made slaves. The emperor, on his part, acceded

no incitement, and therefore set sail at the head of a powerful fleet, consisting of an hundred and twenty ships and twenty gallies, having on board 30000 troops, with an immense quantity of arms and ammunition. In this expedition, many young nobility and gentlemen attended as volunteers, and among these many knights of Malta, so remarkable for their valor against the enemies of Christianity. Even ladies of birth and character attended Charles, and the wives and daughters of the officers and soldiers followed him with a design to settle in Barbary, after the conquest was finished.

By this prodigious armament, the Algerines were thrown into the utmost consternation. The city was surrounded only by a wall with scarce any out-works. The garrison consisted of 800 Turks and 6,000 Moors, without fire-arms, and poorly disciplined and accoutred; the rest of their forces being dispersed in the other provinces of the kingdom, to levy the usual tribute on the Arabs and Moors. The Spaniards landed without opposition, and immediately built a fort, under the cannon of which they encamped, and diverted the course of a spring which supplied the city with water. Being now reduced to the

utmost distress, Hassan received a summons to surrender at discretion, on pain of being put to the sword with all his garrison. The herald was ordered to extol the vast power of the emperor, both by sea and land, and to exhort him to return to the Christian religion. But to this Hassan only replied, that he must be a madman, who would pretend to advise an enemy, and that the person advised would act still more madly who would take counsel of such an adviser. He was, however, on the point of surrendering the city, when intelligence was brought him that the forces belonging to the western government were in full march towards the place; upon which he was resolved to defend it to the utmost. Charles, in the mean time, resolving upon a general assault, kept a constant firing on the town; which, from the weak defence made by the garrison, he looked upon as already in his hands. But while the divan were deliberating on the most proper means of obtaining an honorable capitulation, a mad prophet, attended by a multitude of people, entered the assembly, and foretold the destruction of the Spaniards, before the end of the moon, exhorting the inhabitants to hold out till that time. This prediction was soon ac-

complished in a very surprising and unexpected manner; for, on the 28th of October 1541, a dreadful storm of wind, rain, and hail, arose from the north, accompanied with violent shocks of earthquakes, and a dismal and universal darkness, both by sea and land; so that the sun, moon, and elements, seemed to combine together for the destruction of the Spaniards. In that one night, some say in less than half an hour, 86 ships and 15 gallies were destroyed, with all their crews and military stores; by which the army on shore was deprived of all means of subsistence. Their camp also, which spread itself along the plain under their fort, was laid quite under water by the torrents which descended from the neighboring hills. Many of the troops, by trying to remove into some better situation, were cut to pieces by the Moors and Arabs; while several gallies, and other vessels, endeavoring to gain some neighboring creeks along the coast, were immediately plundered, and their crews massacred by the inhabitants.

Next morning, Charles beheld the sea covered with the fragments of ships, and the bodies of men, horses, and other creatures, swimming on the waves; at which he was so disheartened, that, abandoning

his tents, artillery, and all his heavy baggage to the enemy, he marched at the head of his army, in no small disorder, towards Cape Mallabux, in order to reimbark in those vessels which had out-weathered the storm. But Hassan, who had watched his motions, allowed him just time to get to the shore, when he sallied out, and attacked the Spaniards in the midst of their hurry to get into their ships. He killed great numbers, and brought away a still greater number of captives: after which, he returned in triumph to Algiers.

Soon after this, the prophet Yusef, who had foretold the destruction of the Spaniards, was declared the deliverer of his country, and had a considerable gratuity decreed him, with the liberty of exercising his prophetic function unmolested. It was not long, however, before the Marabouts, and some interpreters of the law, made a strong opposition against him, remonstrating to the bashaw, how ridiculous and scandalous it was to their nation, to ascribe its deliverance to a poor fortune-teller, which had been obtained by the fervent prayers of an eminent saint of their own profession. But though the bashaw and his divan seemed, out of policy, to give into this last notion, yet the impres-

ı, which the prediction of Yusef and accomplishment had made upon the ıds of the common people, proved too ıng to be eradicated; and the spirit of ination and conjuring has since got into h credit among them, that not only their at statesmen, but their priests, mara- ts and santoons, have applied them- es to that study, and dignified it with name of Mahomet's Revelations.

The Spaniards had scarce reached their os, when they were attacked by a fresh m, in which several more of them pe- ıed. A vessel in particular, containing en hundred soldiers, besides sailors, k in the sight of Charles, without a sibility of saving a single man. At gth with much labor, they reached the t of Bujeyah. They stayed no longer e than till the sixteenth of November, en they set sail for Carthagena, and ched it on the twenty-fifth of the same nth. In this unfortunate expedition vards of 120 ships and gallies were lost, h above 300 colonels and other officers, 8000 soldiers and marines, besides se destroyed by the enemy on their nbarkation, or drowned in the last m. The number of prisoners was so at, that the Algerines sold some of

them, by way of contempt, for an onion per head.

From this time, the Spaniards were never able to annoy the Algerines, in any considerable degree. In 1555, they lost the city of Bujeyah, which was taken by Salab Bais, successor to Hassan. This commander, in 1556, set out upon a new expedition, suspected to be against Oran; but he was scarcely got four leagues from Algiers, when the plague, which at that time raged violently in the city, broke out in his groin, and luckily carried him off in 24 hours.

Immediately after his death, the Algerine soldiery chose a Corsican renegado, Hassan Corso, in his room, till they should receive further orders from the porte. He did not accept of the bashawship without a good deal of difficulty, but immediately prosecuted the intended expedition against Oran, dispatching a messenger to acquaint the porte with what had happened. The army had hardly begun their hostilities against the place, when orders came from the porte, expressly forbidding Hassan Corso to begin the siege, or, if he had begun it, enjoining him to raise it immediately, which he accordingly did.

Corso had enjoyed his dignity for four

months, when Tekelli, a new bashaw, arrived, as his successor from Constantinople. The Algerines resolved not to admit him; but by the treachery of the Levantine soldiers, he at last entered. Corso was thrown over a wall, in which a number of iron hooks were fixed. One of these catching the ribs of his side, he hung three days in a horrid agony before he expired. 'We meet with events in the annals of mankind, that make us doubt the truth of the most authentic story. We cannot believe that such actions have ever been committed by the inhabitants of this globe, and by creatures of the same species with ourselves. We are tempted to think we are perusing the records of hell.'*

Tekelli was assassinated under the dome of a saint, by Yusef Calabres, the favorite renegado of Hassan Corso. The murderer was chosen bashaw, but died of the plague, six days after his election.

Yusef was succeeded by Hassan the son of Hayradin Barbarossa. Not long after, the Spaniards undertook an expedition against Mostagan under the command of the count d'Alcandela, but were utterly defeated, the commander himself killed,

* View of Society and Manners in Italy, by Dr. Moore, Letter 16th.

and 12000 men taken prisoners. Hassan having disobliged his subjects, they sent him in irons to Constantinople, while two Turkish officers supplied his place. Hassan cleared himself; but Achmet, a new bashaw, was appointed. Upon his arrival at Algiers, he sent the two deputy bashaws to Constantinople, where their heads were struck off. Achmet, in four moths, died; and Hassan was sent a third time viceroy to Algiers.

He soon engaged in the siege of Marsalquiver, possessed by the Spaniards, and situated near the city of Oran. The Turkish standards were several times planted on the walls, and as often dislodged; but in the end Hassan was obliged to raise the siege.

In 1567, Hassan was again recalled to Constantinople. His successor, Mahomet, incorporated the Janisaries and Levantine Turks together. He thus put an end to their dissentions, and laid the foundation of the Algerine independency on the porte. He likewise added some considerable fortifications to the city and castle, which he designed to render impregnable. At this time, one John Gascon, a bold Spanish adventurer, formed a design of surprising the whole piratic navy in the bay, and set-

ting them on fire in the night time. He had the permission of Philip II. and was furnished by him with vessels, mariners, and fire-works, for the execution of his plan. He set sail for Algiers in the beginning of October, when most, if not all the ships lay at anchor there; and advanced near enough, unsuspected to view them. He came accordingly, unperceived by any, to the very mole gate, and dispatched his men with their fire-works; but these were so ill mixed, that they could not be kindled. Gascon finding himself discovered, and in the utmost danger, sailed away with all possible haste; but he was pursued, overtaken, and brought back a prisoner. Mahomet immediately caused a gibbet to be erected on the spot where Gascon had landed, and hung him by the feet upon a hook, with his royal commission tied to his toes. He had not been long suspended, when the captain who made him prisoner, and a number of other corsairs, interceded so strongly in his behalf, that he was taken down, and put under the care of some Christian surgeons; but two days after, some Moors having reported as the common talk and belief in Spain, that the Algerines durst not hurt a hair of Gascon's head, he was hoisted up by a pulley

to the top of the execution wall, and thrown down again. In his fall, a hook catched him by the belly, and gave him a wound, of which he instantly expired.

Mahomet was succeeded by Ochali, a renegado, who reduced the kingdom of Tunis. It remained subject to the viceroy of Algiers only till the year 1586, when a bashaw of Tunis was appointed by the Sultan.

Algiers continued to be governed, till the beginning of the 17th century, by Turkish viceroys or bashaws. At last, the Turkish Janisaries and militia becoming powerful enough to suppress the tyrannic sway of those bashaws, they sent a deputation of some of their chief members to Constantinople to complain of their rapacity. They represented to the ministry, how much more honorable it would be for the grand seignior to permit them to chuse their own dey, or governor, from among themselves, whose interest it would be to see that the revenue of the country was rightly applied in keeping up its forces complete, and in supplying all other exigencies of the state, without any farther charge or trouble to the porte, than that of allowing them its protection. Algiers was to be wholly left under the direction

of the dey and his divan. The power of the Turkish bashaw was to be reduced to a shadow.

These proposals were accepted by the porte. The divan elected a dey from among themselves. They compiled a new set of laws and made several regulations for the better support and maintenance of this new form of government. The subsequent altercations that frequently happened between the bashaws and deys, the one endeavoring to recover former power and the other to curtail it, caused such frequent complaints and discontents at the Ottoman court, as made them sometimes repent of their compliance.

In the year 1601, the Spaniards made another attempt upon Algiers. Their fleet was driven back by contrary winds, so that they came off without loss. In 1609, the Moors being expelled from Spain, flocked in great numbers to Algiers; and as many of them were very able sailors, they undoubtedly contributed to make the Algerine fleet so formidable as it became soon after. In 1616, their fleet consisted of 40 ships, between two hundred and 400 tons burthen, and their admiral was 500 tons. It was divided into two squadrons, one of 18 sail, stationed before the port of Ma-

laga; and the other at the Cape of Santa Maria, between Lisbon and Seville; both of which attacked Christian ships, both English and French, with whom they pretended to be in friendship, as well as Spaniards and Portuguese, with whom they were at war.

The Algerines were now become formidable to the European powers. The Spaniards, who were most in danger, solicited the assistance of England, the Pope, and other states. The French, however, were the first who dared to shew their resentment at the perfidious behaviour of these miscreants; and in 1617, M. Beaulieu was sent against them with a fleet of 50 men of war. He defeated their fleet, and took two of their vessels. Their admiral sunk his own ship and crew, rather than fall into the hands of the enemy.

In 1620, a squadron of English men of war was sent against Algiers, but did nothing. The Algerines, becoming more insolent, openly defied all the European powers, the Dutch only excepted, to whom, in 1625, they sent a proposal, that in case they would fit out 20 sail of ships in the following year, upon any service against the Spaniards, the corsairs would join them with 60 sail.

Next year, the Cologlies, or children of such Turks as had been permitted to marry at Algiers, who were inrolled in the militia, seized on the citadel, and had well nigh made themselves masters of the city. They were attacked by the Turks and renegadoes, who defeated them with terrible slaughter. Numbers were executed, and their heads thrown in heaps on the city walls.

In 1623, the Algerines and other states of Barbary, threw off their dependence on the porte. Sultan Amurath IV. had been obliged to make a truce for twenty-five years, with the emperor, Ferdinand II. As this put a stop to the piratical trade of the Algerines, they proceeded as abovementioned; and resolved, that whoever desired to be at peace with them, must, separately, apply to their own government. They began to make prizes of several merchant ships belonging to the powers at peace with the porte. They seized a Dutch ship and poleacre at Scanderoon; they even ventured on shore, and finding the town abandoned by the Turkish aga and inhabitants, they plundered all the magazines and ware-houses, and set them on fire. About this time, Louis XIII. undertook to build a fort on their coasts, in-

stead of one formerly built by the Marsilians, and which had been demolished. This, after some difficulty, he accomplished; and it was called the Bastion of France; but the situation being found inconvenient, the French purchased the port of La Calle, and obtained liberty to trade with the Arabians and Moors. The Ottoman court, in the mean time, was so much embarrassed with a Persian war, that there was no leisure to check the Algerines piracies. This gave an opportunity to the vizir and other courtiers to compound matters with the Algerines, and to get a share of the prizes, which were very considerable. For the sake of form a severe reprimand, accompanied with threats, was sent them. They replied, that 'they deserved to be indulged in these depredations, as they were the only bulwark against the Christian powers, and in particular, against the Spaniards, the sworn enemies of the Moslem name.' They added, that 'if they should pay a punctilious regard to all who could purchase liberty to trade with the Ottoman empire, they would have nothing to do but set fire to their shipping, and turn camel-drivers.'

In the year 1635, four brothers of a fam-

ily in France, entered into an undertaking so desperate, that perhaps the annals of knight-errantry can scarcely furnish its equal. This was no less than to retort the piracies of the Algerines, upon themselves; and as they indiscriminately took the ships of all nations, so were these heroes indiscriminately to take the ships belonging to Algiers; and this with a small frigate of ten guns! An 100 volunteers embarked; a Maltese commission was obtained, with an able master, and 30 mariners. On their first setting out, they took, on the Spanish coast, a ship laden with wine. Three days after, they engaged two large Algerine corsairs one of 20 and the other of 24 guns. The French made so desparate a resistance, that the pirates were not able to take them, till five other corsairs came up. The French vessel, being almost torn to pieces, was them boarded and taken. In 1642, the brothers redeemed themselves, at the price of 6000 dollars.

In 1637, the Algerines infested the British channel; and, according to Mrs. Macauley,* had made such a vast number of captures, as to have at one time between 4 and 5000 subjects of England prisoners.

The Algerines prosecuted their piracies

* History of England, vol. ii. chap. 4.

with impunity, to the terror and disgrace of Christendom, till the year 1652; when a French fleet being accidentally driven to Algiers, the admiral took it into his head to demand a release of all the captives of his nation without exception. This being refused, the Frenchman, without ceremony, carried off the Turkish viceroy, and his cadi or judge, who were just arrived from the porte, with all their equipage and retinue. The Algerines, by way of reprisal, surprised the Bastion of France, already mentioned, and carried off the inhabitants, to the number of 600, with all their effects. Upon this the admiral sent them word, that he would pay them another visit the next year, with all his fleet.

The Algerines fitted out a fleet of sixteen galleys and galliots, under the command of Hali Pinchinin. The chief design of this armament was against the treasure of Loretto; which they were prevented by contrary winds from obtaining. Hereupon they made a descent upon Puglia, in the kingdom of Naples; where they ravaged the whole territory of Necotra. They carried off a vast number of captives. Thence steering towards Dalmatia, they scoured the Adriatic, and loaded themselves with immense plunder.

The Venetians, alarmed at such ravages, equipped a fleet of 28 sail, under the command of admiral Capello, with express orders to burn, sink, or take, all the Barbary corsairs which he met with, either on the open seas, or even in the Ottoman harbors, agreeable to a late treaty of peace with the porte. On the other hand, the captain bashaw, who had been sent out with a Turkish fleet to chase the Florentine and Maltese cruisers from the Archipelago, learning that the Algerine squadron was so near, sent express orders to the admiral to come to his assistance. Pinchinin readily agreed; but he was overtaken by Capello, from whom he retired to Valona, a sea port belonging to the grand seignior, whither the Venetian admiral pursued him; but the Turkish governor refusing to turn out the pirates, according to the articles of the peace between the Ottoman court and Venice, Capello was obliged to content himself with watching them for some time. Pinchinin soon ventured out, an engagement immediately ensued, and the Algerines were defeated. Five of their vessels were disabled; 1,500 men, Turks and Christian slaves, were killed; besides 1,600 galley slaves who regained their liberty. Pinchinin, after this defeat, re-

turned to Valona, where he was again watched by Capello: but the latter had not lain long at his old anchorage, before he received a letter from the senate, desiring him to make no farther attempt on the pirates at that time, for fear of a rupture with the porte. Capello was forced to submit; but resolving to take such a leave of the Algerines as he thought they deserved, observed how they had reared their tents, and drawn their booty and equipage along the shore. He then kept firing among their tents, while some well manned galliots and brigantines were dispatched to attack their shipping. Sixteen gallies, with all their cannon and stores, were towed out. In this last engagement, a ball from one of the Venetian gallies, struck a Turkish mosque, and hence, the whole action was considered as an insult to the grand seignior. To conceal this, Capello was ordered to sink all the Algerine ships that he had taken, except the admiral; which was to be conducted to Venice, and laid up as a trophy. Capello received a severe reprimand, and the Venetians were obliged to buy, with 500,000 ducats, a peace from the porte.

In the mean time, the news of this defeat and loss filled Algiers with rage and

confusion. The city was on the point of an insurrection, when the bashaw published a proclamation, forbidding, not only complaints and outcries, under the severest penalties, but all persons whatever to take their thumbs from within their girdles, while they were deliberating on this subject. They applied to the porte for an order, that the Venetians settled in the Levant, should make up their loss. But with this the grand seignior refused to comply, and left them to repair their losses, and to build new ships in the best manner that they could. It was not long, however, before they had the satisfaction of seeing one of their captains land, with a fresh supply of 600 slaves, whom he had brought from the coast of Iceland, whither he had been directed by a miscreant native, taken on board a Danish ship.

CHAP. IV.

PINCHININ. His engagement with a Dutch ship. Bombardment and destruction of Algiers by the French. Defeat of the Spaniards.

THE pirates did not long continue in their weak and defenceless state; being able, at the end of two years, to appear at sea with a fleet of 65 sail. The admiral Pinchinin equipped four galliots at his own

expence; with which, in conjunction with the Chiayah or secretary of the bashaw of Tripoli, he made a second excursion. This small squadron, consisting of five galleys and two brigantines, fell in with an English ship of forty guns; which, however, Pinchinin's captains refused to engage, but being afterwards reproached by him for their cowardice, they swore to attack the next Christian ship that came in their way. This happened to be a Dutch merchantmen, of 28 guns and 40 men, deeply laden, and disabled by a calm from using her sails. Pinchinin immediately summoned her to surrender; but receiving an ironical answer, drew up his squadron in form of an half moon, that they might pour their shot all at once into their adversary. This, however, the Dutchman avoided, by means of a breeze of wind which fortunately sprung up and enabled him to turn his ship; by which the galleys ran foul of each other. Upon this, Pinchinin ran his own galley along side the merchantman, the upper deck of which seventy Algerines immediately took possession of, some of them cutting the rigging, others plying the hatches with hand-grenadoes; but the Dutch having secured themselves in their close quarters, began

to fire at the Algerines on board, from two pieces of cannon loaded with small shot; by which they were all soon killed or forced to submit. Pinchinin in the mean time made several unsuccessful attempts to relieve his men, as well as to surround the Dutch with his other gallies; but their ship lay so deep in the water, that every shot did terrible execution among the pirates; so that they were obliged to remove farther off. At last the Dutch captain, having ordered his guns to be loaded with cartouches, gave them a parting volley, which killed, as it is said, 200 of them, and sent the rest back to Algiers in a dismal condition.

But though Pinchinin thus returned in disgrace, the rest of the fleet quickly came back with vast numbers of slaves, and an immense quantity of rich spoils; in so much that the English, French, and Dutch, were obliged to cringe to the Algerines, who sometimes condescended to be at peace with them, but swore eternal war against Spain, Portugal, and Italy, whom they considered as the greatest enemies to the Mahometan name. At last Lewis the 14th, provoked by the grievous outrages committed by the Algerines on the coasts of Provence and Languedoc,

ordered, in 1681, a considerable fleet to be fitted out against them, under the Marquis du Quesne, vice admiral of France. His first expedition was against a number of Tripolitan corsairs; who had the good fortune to outrow him, and shelter themselves in the island of Scio belonging to the Turks. This did not prevent him from pursuing them thither, and making such a terrible fire upon them, as destroyed 14 of their vessels, besides battering the walls of the castle.

This severity seemed only to be designed as a check to the piracies of the Algerines; but, finding that they still continued their outrages on the French coast, Du Quesne sailed in August, 1682, to Algiers, cannonading and bombarding it so furiously, that, in a very short time, the whole town was in flames. The great mosque was battered down, and most of the houses laid in ruins, so that the inhabitants were on the point of abandoning the place; when, on a sudden the wind turned about, and obliged Du Quesne to return to Toulon. The Algerines immediately made reprisals, by sending a number of galleys and galliots to the coasts of Provence, where they committed the most dreadful ravages, and brought away a vast

number of captives; upon which a new armament was ordered to be got ready at Toulon and Marseilles, against them the next year; and the Algerines, having received notice, put themselves into as good a state of defence as the time would allow.

In May, 1683, Du Quesne with his squadron cast anchor before Algiers; where, being joined by the marquis d'Affranville, at the head of five strong vessels, it was resolved to bombard the town next day, when accordingly, 100 bombs were thrown into it which did terrible execution, while the besieged made some 100 discharges of their cannon against the assailants, without doing any considerable damage. The following night, bombs were again thrown into the city in such numbers, that the dey's palace and other great edifices were almost destroyed; some of the batteries were dismounted, and several vessels sunk in the port. The dey, and Turkish bashaw, as well as the whole soldiery, alarmed at this dreadful havock, immediately sued for peace. The French insisted on the surrender of all Christian captives who had been taken fighting under their flag, which being granted, 142 persons were directly delivered up, with a promise of sending on board the remainder,

as soon as they could be got from the different parts of the country. Accordingly Du Quesne sent his commissary-general and one of his engineers into the town; but with express orders to insist upon the delivery of all the French captives without exception, together with the effects that had been taken from the French; and that Mezomorto their admiral, and Hali Rais one of their captains, should be given as hostages.

This last demand having embarrassed the dey, he assembled the divan, and acquainted them with it. Upon this Mezomorto fell into a violent passion, and told the assembly, that the cowardice of those who sat at the helm had occasioned the ruin of Algiers; but, that for his part, he would never consent to deliver up any thing that was taken from the French. He immediately acquained the soldiery with what had passed; which so exasperated them, that they murdered the dey that very night, and on the morrow chose Mezomorto in his place. This was no sooner done, than he cancelled all the articles of peace which had been made, and hostilities were renewed with greater fury than ever.

The French admiral now kept pouring

in such volleys of bombs, that in less than three days, the greatest part of the city was reduced to ashes; and the fire burnt with such fury, that the sea was enlightened for more than two leagues around. Mezomorto, unmoved by all these disasters, and the vast numbers of the slain, whose blood ran in rivulets along the streets; or rather, grown furious and desperate, sought only how to wreak his revenge on the enemy; and, not content with causing all the French in the city to be cruelly murdered, he ordered their consul to be tied hand and foot, and fastened alive to the mouth of a mortar, from which he was shot away against their navy. By this piece of inhumanity, Du Quesne was so exasperated, that he did not leave Algiers, till he had utterly destroyed all their fortifications, shipping, almost all the lower part, and above two thirds of the upper part of the city, which became little more than a heap of ruins.

The Algerines were now thoroughly convinced that they were not invincible; and, therefore, immediately sent an embassy into France, begging in the most abject terms for peace; which Lewis very soon granted, to their inexpressible joy. They now began to pay some regard to

other nations, and to be somewhat cautious how they wantonly provoked their displeasure. The first bombardment by the French had so far humbled the Algerines, that they condescended to enter into a treaty with England; which was in 1686 renewed upon terms very advantageous to the latter. It is not to be supposed, however, that the natural perfidity of the Algerines would disappear on a sudden. Notwithstanding this treaty, therefore, they lost no opportunity of making prizes of English ships, when they could conveniently seize them. Upon some infringement of this kind, captain Beach, in 1695, drove ashore and burned seven of their frigates which produced a renewal of the treaty five years after; but it was not until the taking of Gibraltar and Port Mahon, that Britain could have a sufficient check upon them to enforce the observation of treaties; and these have since proved such restraints upon Algiers, that they still continue to pay a greater deference to the English than to any other European power.

In 1708, Oran, as has been already related, was taken by the Algerines from the Spaniards, and recovered by the latter in 1732. The Turkish bashaw was in 1710, finally expelled.

Since the last siege of Oran the most remarkable event in the annals of Barbary is the attack of Algiers, by the Spaniards in the year 1775. With a concise account of that expedition, we shall close this chapter of blood.

On the 23d of June, 1775, a fleet of six ships of the line, twelve frigates and thirty-three other armed vessels set sail from Carthagena, in Spain, to attack Algiers. There was on board a body of troops amounting to 24,447 men, including infantry, cavalry, marines, and 600 deserters destined to serve as workmen. They were commanded by the count O'Reilly, a personal favorite of the late king of Spain. They had likewise for the land-service, 176 pieces of artillery, mortars and howitzers, with a suitable quantity of military stores. On the 30th of June, and 1st of July, they anchored in the bay of Algiers. They observed a large encampment, placed behind a battery, east of the river Xarach, which runs on the eastward of the city. On the 2d of July, a council was held; and orders were given that the troops should hold themselves in readiness to disembark next morning by day-break. But as the succeeding night was windy, and a swell had set in from the shore, these or-

ders were countermanded. From this day to the 6th, there were frequent councils, violent debates, and nothing done. A quarrel broke out between O'Reilly and the Marquis de Romana, a Spanish major-general, who was killed in the subsequent action. On the 6th, the principal officers were again assembled, to receive their ultimate instructions. The commander in chief warned the army, that it was the custom of the Moors, to pretend a most violent attack, and on the smallest resistance, to fly with precipitation, that they might draw the enemy into an ambuscade. He cautioned the troops not to break their ranks, as nothing but the force of discipline could secure them against so active an enemy. He pointed out the very error which they soon after committed, and the snare into which they were betrayed. On landing, the army was directed to gain some heights, which were supposed requisite to ensure success against Algiers. In the afternoon of the 6th, some ships of war were ordered to fire against three batteries to the eastward of that city. This commission was executed with so much laudable attention to the personal safety of the assailants, if such we may term them, that their shot *did not reach the shore*, those

of one 74 gun ship excepted. At sun set this formidable attack ceased.

On the 7th at day-break, between 8 and 9000 men were put on board the boats for landing. They advanced, under the protection of some larger vessels very near the coast. Not a Moor appeared to oppose them; and at seven o'clock in the morning, they *returned on board the transports.* Not a shot was fired on either side, during the whole day.

On the 8th, at day-break, the ships being stationed to batter the different forts to the right and left of the place of disembarkation, the troops, to the number of about 8000, were put on board the boats; which formed in six columns. The place of landing was a league and an half to the eastward of the city of Algiers. Eighty thousand Moors, of whom two thirds were cavalry, came in sight, but did not attempt to oppose the landing of the Spanish forces. It is said, that the whole number of Africans collected on this occasion, was not less than 150000. The troops advanced into a close country, which the Algerines had occupied in small parties. The grenadiers and light infantry of the Spaniards were repulsed, and the whole body fell into confusion. In a very short time

they fled, leaving behind them a great number of killed and wounded. The latter, a few excepted, were, in spite of their intreaties, left to the *mercy* of the conquerors. Part of a second embarkation of troops added to the general confusion. A third body had cast up an entrenchment on the shore, for the protection of the army. The Africans attacked it, but were driven back with great slaughter on both sides. The Spaniards, in their gazette, acknowledged the loss of 521 men killed, and 2279 wounded. It is said, that the Algerines had between 5 and 6000 men slain on the spot. The wounded Spaniards, who were left on the field of battle, were every one murdered by the enemy. The government of Algiers had offered ten zequins for the head of each Spaniard. Fifteen pieces of cannon, and three howitzers were left behind by these unfortunate invaders. The real amount of their loss can hardly have been less than 3000 lives, and was perhaps considerably greater. In the gazette of a court, we seldom expect an honest reckoning of this kind. If the writer of that of Madrid intended us to believe that 2279 of the wounded were brought off, the officer from whose journal this account is extracted, says that a

much greater number were left behind, than were saved, which makes the story worse and worse. On details of this kind, we cannot dwell with pleasure. One circumstance is evident, that the Spanish commanders did not understand their business.

CHAP. V.

State of America as to Algiers. Conduct of Britain. Concluding Remarks.

IN the two last Chapters, we have seen the Algerines successively set at defiance, several of the most formidable nations of Europe. When the United States of America had obtained their infant independence, it was naturally to be expected, that they also should, in some degree, suffer, by the ravages of the corsairs. Various circumstances pointed them out, as eligible objects of piratical rapine. They possessed an extensive trade with Europe, which in the first place, presented a splendid temptation to plunder. There was, on the part of the Algerines, a second and irresistible motive to hostilities. America did not support, at her national expence, any maritime force whatever; and thirdly, had she even established an armed navy, this country lies at the distance of more than

3000 miles, from the common range of the privateers of Barbary. Hence, to reduce them to submission, must always require a proportion of trouble and expence greatly superior to the substantial magnitude of the object of attack; and this remoteness of our situation might be considered as an additional inducement to the regency of Algiers for interrupting our navigation. Of the number and strength of the corsairs, it is impossible to give an accurate statement. Their actual force, however, compared with that which the United States could easily fit out, is but trifling. To bring their whole ships of war, at once, to a regular engagement, never can be practicable; but should it happen, it may without presumption be supposed, that fifteen or twenty American forty gun frigates would send their navy to the bottom. When we reflect on the numerous and peculiar incitements which these Africans had, to commence depredations on the commerce of the United States, instead of being surprised at our having suffered so much, it rather becomes an object of wonder that we have suffered so little. The late alarming intelligence from Lisbon has excited universal attention from the public to that subject, which may be divided into two

questions. First, why, excepting two vessels,* have not the ships of this country met with any interruption since the end of the war with Britain? Second, why has our trade now suffered so unexpected and severe a check?

In answer to the first query, it has happened, that since the independence of North America, the Algerines have been constantly at war, with the Dutch, or the Portuguese, or both at once; and as either of these nations is greatly superior, in regular strength at sea, to the corsairs, they have, hitherto, for the security of their own commerce, watched the entrance of the Mediterranean so carefully, what the corsairs have been seldom able to get out of it. That they sometimes did so, is unfor-

* On the 25th of July, 1785, the schooner Maria, captain Stephens, belonging to Mr. Forster, of Boston, was taken off Cape St. Vincents, by an Algerine cruiser; and five days afterwards, the ship Dolphin, capt. O'Brien, belonging to Messrs. Irvines, of Philadelphia, was taken by another, fifty leagues westward of Lisbon. These vessels, with their cargoes and crews, twenty-one in number, were carried into Algiers. Of this number, two have been ransomed by their friends. The remainder, now reduced by death to thirteen, are yet slaves. In the newspapers, about that time, two or three other ships are reported as captured, but upon enquiry, these two vessels only appear to have been so.

tunately certain, from the fate of the two American vessels above-mentioned; but, in general, they were shut up in the Mediterranean as in a prison, without a possibility of extending their depredations on the Atlantic ocean. Into the former, American vessels but sometimes vertured, and when they did so, they derived security from forged or purchased Mediterranean passes. A British ship has for her protection a pass, which is written on a large sheet of parchment, and has, by way of ornament, some figures or dashes drawn with a pen, or engraved on the margin. The Algerines cannot read English, and it would most likely cost the captain of a corsair his head, were he to carry a British vessel, by mistake, as a prize into the harbor of Algiers. They have adopted a *sagacious* contrivance to discover whether such passes are genuine. They keep a stick marked with notches corresponding to the shape of those figures, that are uniformly delineated on the margin of the parchment. When the pass is produced, their measure is applied. In this way, it cannot be difficult for the most bungling artist, who has an original pass before him, to deceive them; and, by this means, it is said, upon reputable authority, that many

vessels have been preserved. Besides, even in the Mediterranean itself, the progress of the Algerines has been considerably cramped by the Portuguese and Dutch ships of war; and both these nations, as well as the Spaniards, from a regard to their own interest, as well as from the common principles of justice and humanity, have been forward to extend their protection to the American flag.

In answer to the second query, this protection has, at present been suspended, because a cessation of hostilities has taken place between Holland and Portugal on the one side, and the regency of Algiers, on the other. Spain, at the same time, has been engaged in the general conspiracy of the Domitians and Caligulas of Europe, against the republic of France; and as this country has contracted the guilt of becoming a free nation, we likewise are involved, though, *as yet*, but at second hand, in the vengeance of the imperial and royal Vandals. The corsairs of Barbary are now at liberty to attack the vessels of the United States, not only in the Mediterranean, but also in the Atlantic ocean. From the final establishment of American independence, some attempts are reported to have been made by the American go-

vernment, to conclude a pacification
the state of Algiers, but for some re
or other, these attempts have hitherto
ved unsuccessful. The circumsta
which have always disappointed the
fic designs of our administration, des
to be investigated.

Several of our late letters from Li
agree in asserting, that the present p
or truce between Algiers and Portuga
been formed by the officious interver
of England, without the knowledge o
latter. The same advices add, and
information is universally believed,
this has been done by England, that
corsairs of Barbary might have liber
interrupt the commerce of this co
with Europe. Since the commence
of the unfortunate war, that now spr
desolation and bankruptcy over so
countries in that quarter of the w
American bottoms, because they
neutral, obtained the preference to
of England in the carrying trade.
were not liable to be seized by French
vateers, and could, therefore, unmole
transport the commodities of an
country to any other. This adva
gave our vessels a decided superio
and the master of an American shi

quently received 20 per cent. more for the same freight, than would be given to the master of an English vessel. This humiliating distinction alarmed the pride of the English nation. Divested of the carrying trade, the naval despotism of England would at once shrink into nothing. The powers of Europe may reduce her to the natural level of her importance, without the expense of firing a single gun. Let them declare, that no vessel of that country shall bring into their harbours, any commodities but those of British growth or manufacture. Her navy, which has perpetrated such incessant, mischief, would them, if I may borrow the trite quotation from Shakespeare, vanish, *like the baseless fabric of a vision.*

The Americans, for some time past, have been making rapid strides towards her expulsion from the carrying trade. England could hardly venture, at this crisis, to add a second republic to the catalogue of her enemies. She has, therefore, adopted the miserable expedient of turning loose the Algerines, that these execrable ruffians might plunder our property, and plunge our fellow-citizens into slavery.

Lord Sheffield, in a pamphlet which has obtained more notice than it deserved,

informs the English nation, "That it will not be the interest of the great maritime powers, to protect the American vessels from the Barbary states." This benevolent remark has received a proper answer from the author of "Observations" on his lordship's pamphlet. The moderation of stile, the candor of reasoning, and the unquestioned authenticity of the facts advanced by Mr. Coxe, deserve, in an uncommon degree, the attention, and the gratitude of his countrymen.

In consequence of the peace so maliciously patched up through the interference of the British, considerable havoc has been made on the American commerce, a number of our vessels having been taken, and the crews, to the number of above 130, carried into the most cruel slavery. The whole of these depredations were committed in the month of October and November 1793. Shortly afterwards, the court of Portugal ordered its vessels on their old station, and since that time, they have kept the corsairs within the straits, and preserved our vessels from their rapine.

When the news of the misfortune of so many of our citizens arrived in America, the sympathy of the public was excited to the highest possible degree. Committees

were appointed in several places to collect money, for their relief, it not for their ransom. The committee appointed in Philadelphia for this purpose, received considerable sums; from the managers of the new theatre alone nearly one thousand dollars. But humanity has to deplore, that a most unaccountable torpor has taken place of benevolence and charity on this trying occasion. Curiosity has in vain exerted itself to discover, why a business so extremely interesting, and undertaken with so much ardor, has utterly died away, and even seemed to have been obliterated from public recollection!

During the last session of Congress, an act was passed empowering the President to purchase, or cause to be built, a number of vessels for the defence of the commerce of the United States against the Algerines. These vessels are now building—and it is hoped, from the excellence of their construction, and the acknowledged abilities of the gentlemen appointed to command them, that should they ever meet any of those detestable pirates, they will fully avenge the injured honor of America.

Appendix.

NO. I.

Letter from WILLIAM PENROSE, captain of the ship President, to his owners, dated, Algiers, November 4, 1793.

ON the 23d October, at nine o'clock A. M. a sail to windward bore down upon us, which we thought was a Spanish privateer; when he came nigh, hoisted Spanish colors, fired a gun to leeward, and brought us to. As soon as he saw the American colors hoisted, he hoisted out the launch immediately. It being then nearly calm, as it had been for eight days before; in an instant there was nearly 30 armed men on board, the first saluted me with a dreadful stroke with his cutlass, made me jump over the rail into the boat and all hands after me, without ever suffering any one to go below, and carried us on board the cruizer, where they stripped us to the skin, and gave us a few old rags, that would scarcely cover our nakedness, let alone keep us from the cold. In this situation, we were obliged to lay on deck; the people they let go below, and Mr. Barry by some means or other, got below for two nights—I was forced to lay on the poop, and the wind being at E. N. E. it almost perished me; but at length an old man, more humane than the

, lent me a blanket, which they had ta-
out of the ship. The provisions they
e us was black bread and water, some-
es a few rotten olives, and that we thought
a treat. In this situation we continued
it days.

)n the 31st we arrived at Algiers: we
ight ourselves hardly treated on board the
zer; but alas, our sorrows were but com-
on; for we were not on shore scarcely,
:n they almost loaded us with irons, and
second day made us go to work like cri-
als, and murderers: we are in the most
:ct slavery ever people were in the world.
: same day arrived two frigates and a
, who had taken nine more American
:els; so that our number now is above
hundred, and are expecting more daily.
:y have several cruizers out now, and there
several in the harbor equipping with the
ost speed.

When I was taken, Cape St. Mary's bore
N. W. 5 or 6 miles distance; made Cape
Vincent's on the 15th, on the 17th spoke
English brig; but I suppose he had not
rd of the Algerines being out of the
ights, for he said nothing about them;
we have every reason to suspect them
e our worst enemies.

'here is part of two ships companies here,
was taken eight years ago, but the plague
hard usage has carried them all off but

ten. The small pittance they had from the United States, has been taken off nigh three months, so that we have nothing to subsist on but a little black bread and water, and sometimes nothing; for it is against their religion to give Christians any flesh meat; and if you will be so kind as to supply me with a few dollars for the present, I shall take it as the greatest favor any person ever conferred on me, for it is impossible to subsist long in this miserable situation.

NO. II.

Extract of a letter from JOHN BULKELEY and SON. to a merchant in Philadelphia, dated Lisbon, November 15, 1793.

THE 28th ult. we had the pleasure of acquainting you of the novelty of the truce made by this court with the regency of Algiers, for 12 months, and as such their cruizers at liberty to cruize without restraint of the others as hitherto, which they are actually doing, and no less than eight of their corsairs passed into the ocean; some reports make them 16 sail; but we are happy to inform you, that hitherto they have met with little success, for we find they captured only one large American ship, bound to Barcelona for Spanish account—name or where loaded unknown; and this we are advised from Gibraltar, under the 28th ult. One letter says

she was in Tangiers, and another that she passed up escorted by two zebecks; whether these advices mean one or two vessels, we are at a loss to determine, for want of further explanation. It is reported four more Americans are captured, but as yet no particulars are mentioned, and our letters by this day's post from Cadiz and other ports, are quite silent on this head. We consider and hope the reports ill grounded and spread by designing persons for interested purposes, and have the satisfaction to advise you that a number of American vessels are safe arrived at this and the ports in Spain; as to their return home, they are free of being captured, at this court and that of Spain, grant them convoys to a certain latitude, whence they are clear of the corsairs, whose cruizing station we learn is between Cape St. Vincents and the Western Islands; and the vessels coming to these markets should steer a contrary course, and make Cape Finister their first land, and from thence coast it to their respective destinations: besides, as the winter approaches, these rovers will skulk home, for they will not venture to keep in the ocean during the rough months, being unskilful navigators, and their vessels ill calculated to work in these seas; so that, during this season there will be no great risk in calling on us to try this market.

NO. III.

Letter from J. BULKELEY and SON to WILLIAM BELL, dated Lisbon, December 17, 1793.

WE have just received the inclosed letter by a Portuguese frigate: it is we presume from Captain M'Shane, who had the misfortune of being captured near the mouth of the Streights, by an Algerine cruizer, and carried a slave to Algiers.—We feel very much for him, and all the Americans who have fallen victims to the detested rovers, and it will give us pleasure to alleviate their unfortunate situation.

We are sorry to inform you, that on the 5th of November, to the date of captain M'Shane's letter, there were 120 to 130 poor Americans in slavery; and this is not the worst, the piratical beings came out again into the Atlantic the 29th ult. in search of more plunder, and we fear they will do further mischief. Their cruizing now is contrary to their old system of retiring from the ocean in November, and coming out in April; but they never did much harm to the Portuguese, for since our residence in this city, half a century, they captured but three brigs, one ship, and three or four schooners, and carried them into Algiers. We hope the United States will soon establish a force to keep those pirates from ever entering the Atlantic again.

We suppose you have been informed that this court and Spain grant convoys to your flag, as well as those of the Hanse towns. Our letters from Gibraltar dated the 25th ult. advise that a Portuguese frigate had taken under her protection six Americans, to see them to the westward, out of danger.

NO. IV.

Extract of a letter from JOHN M'SHANE, captain of the Minerva, to WILLIAM BELL, dated Algiers, November 13, 1793.

ON the 18th October, about five leagues from Gibraltar, we were boarded by a zebeck of 20 guns, belonging to this place, who after coming within musket-shot, kept up a constant firing with small arms, until they manned our yards from theirs, then the firing ceased, and they came down sword in hand, spared our lives, but nothing else, having stripped us of the clothes we had on, and put us on board the zebeck, which brought us to this place on the 30th ult. when we were taken before the dey, from thence to the banyon, where the slaves are kept locked up at night: next day we were all sent to the marine, and kept at hard labor from day light till dark, with an iron chain which reaches from our legs to our hips; about 50lb. weight, and treated with great severity by our masters, who allow us nothing but bread and water for our snbsistance. The wheel-

barrow men in your city lived a genteel life to what we do.

Our situation is truly shocking—and how long we can exist, God only knows. The carpenter, John M'Farlane, a Scotchman, was taken out of the marine, by the British consul—the sail-maker, John Fogereaux, and two Spaniards, G. Romeo, and B. Gazona, were sold at public auction. On the evening of the same day, I arrived here, the following masters with their crews were brought in—Captains Wallace, Virginia; Newman, Boston; Taylor, Rhode-Island; Furnace, New-Hampshire; Calder, Gloucester; Burnham, New-York; Bailey, Newbury; Moss, do. Penrose, Philadelphia.

The whole number of Americans is between 120 and 130. They treat the Dutch in the same manner they do us.—Captains O'Brien and Stephens, with their crews are here, ten of them are living, the rest dead. If their small number could not be redeemed, we have no hopes of relief; therefore endeavor to make ourselves as happy as possible: they ask for my ransom 4000 dollars, first and second mate, 2000 dollars each, and for each man, 1500 dollars. If a peace is not made, or our ships protected, we may expect to encrease daily, as we are all employed in the marine department, fitting out cruizers. I have not yet learned their force; but as there is no check on them, no American

vessel will be able to go to Europe in safety. A courier is arrived from Alicant, informing the dey that colonel Humphreys is there with full power from Congress, to make a peace, and waits his permission to come; but the dey, I am informed, had refused him.

I remain Your humble servant.

N. B. Names of the crew on board the ship Minerva. John M'Shane, master; Andrew Tullock, 1st mate; Samuel Millburne, 2d do. John M'Farlane, carpenter; John Fogereaux, sail-maker; Abel Willis, cook. Seamen—Joseph Rogers, William Brown, Thomas Burdon, William Walker, William Grafton, Giani Romeo, Barrotami Gazona, John Sutton, Edward Kerr, Joseph Deitz.

NO. V.

Copy of a letter from captain O'BRIEN, to JAMES SIMPSON, Esq. at Gibraltar, dated Algiers, the 28th November, 1793.

YOUR letter of the 12th inst. I received the 25th. It is a long period since I heard from you; but I hope you will be this way shortly from Toulon.

The Algerines, in their October expedition, captured ten sail of American vessels: nine of them have safely arrived. The crews of these ten vessels, amounting to 102, are at present in Algiers, experiencing what

we have suffered for upwards of eight years. I have repeatedly, for these five years past, forewarned the United States of the impending danger; for the Portuguese have been trying a long time to effect a peace with Algiers; but the Americans in general would put but little confidence in the assertions of a poor victim captive; but they now find that they contained the truth.

On the 11th instant, Mr. Humphreys, the Ambassador for Algiers, sent hither a courier to obtain the dey's permission to come hither in order to make peace. The dey answered, that he would not receive him, either to make peace or redeem the American slaves—that he had been soliciting the Americans to come and make a peace with this regency for three years past, and they had treated his propositions with neglect and indifference; and that since he had made a truce with the Dutch and Portuguese, and captured ten sail of Americans, and likely to take many more, he could not and would not make peace with them: that he made the truce with Portugal for the purpose of capturing American vessels, and could not therefore be at peace with all nations. The courier returned to Mr. Humphreys at Alicant with the dey's reply—but we have heard nothing more since.

The terms prescribed by the dey for the relief of the Portuguese, is as follows:

1,200,000 Mexican dollars for the treasury: 600,000 dollars for the dey's voice and the great officers, of the regency, ambassadorial and consular presents—equal to what Spain gave; and the redemption of 75 Portuguese captains, at 2000 dollars each. On the 7th inst. the Portuguese frigate sailed from Algiers for Lisbon, with the dey's propositions.

The day following the dey called captain Logie, and desired he would immediately write to Portugal, that he demanded for his family and friends 600,000 dollars in addition to the terms above expressed.

The Algerine politicians are of opinion, that Portugal will not agree to the dey's demands; but, sir, I think they will, as they wish to extend their commerce, and well know the difficulty of blocking up the Streights, and the vast sums they expend in keeping up the fleets against the Barbary States.

The Dutch truce will expire in twelve days from this date; and if Van Trump is not here in the limited time, away go the rovers in quest of Dutchmen.

The Danes, in my opinion, are on the verge of loosing their peace with Algiers. Should these three nations be baffled, relative to Algerine affairs, then the United States might probably have an opportunity of establishing a peace: but never on so favorable terms as they might have had three years past; which neglect will cost them four millions, together

with loss of trade, insurance, armaments, and peace redemptions. At all events, the United States have no alternative but to fit out twelve of the best sailing vessels that can possibly be built: these cruizers to be properly appointed and completely manned, for all depends on this measure. At the same time, the door for obtaining a peace should be kept open, and care taken that the United States do not become the dupe and buffoon of all Europe.

NO. VI.

Letter from sundry captive American captains, to colonel DAVID HUMPHREYS, dated, Algiers, December 29th, 1793.

WE the subscribers, in behalf of ourselves and brother sufferers, at present captives in this city of human misery, return you our sincere thanks, for your communications of the 29th ult. and for the provision you have been pleased to allow us, in order to alleviate somewhat our sufferings in our present situation.

We have drawn up and signed two petitions, one to the Senate, the other to the house of Representatives, and we shall esteem it, among the many favors you have rendered us, that you will please to forward these petitions to their respective address, so that no time may be lost, but that they may be laid before the Representatives of our country:

hoping that the United States, will fully provide funds for extricating us from captivity, and restore us to our country, families, friends and connections.

We have perused with sentiments of satisfaction and approbation, your memorial to the regency of Algiers, and have to observe, that its contents fully coincide with our sentiments on this business, which we trust in the Almighty, will terminate to the honor and interest of our common country, notwithstanding the insinuations, of others in this quarter, to the prejudice of the United States.

We trust, and hope, that the United States will adopt such effectual plans, in order to prevent any more of our brethren, sharing our unhappy fate, which unavoidably must happen, if some speedy and decisive means is not immediately put in execution, as we understand the Portuguese truce, with this regency, was agreed on for one year.

What damps our spirits in some degree, is, that we are informed, that the plague, that fatal and tremendous disorder, has given its awful alarm in the country adjacent. And as your unfortunate countrymen are confined during the night time, in the slave-prisons, with 600 captives of other nations, from our crowded situation, we must be exposed to this contagious disorder ; which necessitates the subscribers, to intreat you, sir, that in his case, those our friends, and of influence

in this regency, will be authorised by you, and our honored countrymen, Mr. Charmichael, and Mr. Short, to have a house taken for the residence of the American masters and mates, and, if possible, the mariners, to shield them from the threatening storm of mortality and danger.

We make no doubt, but in case of the Almighty's wrath, visiting this city of iniquity, but the dey and regency would acquiesce to the proposed plan of humanity, which would be establishing an example for the general welfare of mankind—and would to posterity be recorded to the immortal honor of the United States.

The same time, honored sir, and friend, be you assured, for your consolation, that we the American captives, in this city of bondage, will bear our sufferings with fortitude and resignation, as becoming a race of men endowed with superior souls in adversity.

We are much indepted to Mons. Skjoldebrand, and brother, his Swedish majesty's agents, in this city, for their humanity, and attention to the American captives; and feel ourselves particularly obliged to you for recommending us to the good offices of consuls Skjoldebrand, and Mr. Mace, whom you mention to us as friends. With sentiments of gratitude and the most profound respect, we remain, Honored sir, your most obedient most humble servants,

The subscribers in behalf of ourselves and brother-sufferers.

RICHARD O'BRIEN,	1785
ISAAC STEPHENS,	do.
JAMES TAYLOR,	1793
WILLIAM WALLACE,	do.
SAMUEL CALDER,	do.
WILLIAM PENROSE,	do.
TIMOTHY NEWMAN,	do.
MOSES MORSE,	do.
JOSEPH INGRAHAM,	do.
MICHAEL SMITH,	do.
WILLIAM FURNASS,	do.
JOHN BURNHAM,	do.
JOHN M'SHANE,	do.

To David Humphreys, Esq. &c.

NO. VII.

To captain O'BRIEN, and the other captains, &c. of the United States, now prisoners in Algiers.

Madrid, January 12th, 1794.

I HAVE been favored by the receipt of your joint letter, dated 29th December, and, as I am about to set out immediately for Lisbon, I shall be able to do little more than assure you that your memorials to the Senate and House of Representatives of the Unitied States shall be forwarded to them in the earliest and safest manner possible.

Having communicated to Mr. Carmichael, and Mr. Short, your apprehension that the plague may again be introduced to Algiers,

from the adjacent countries, where it is already said to prevail; we have not hesitated to concur with you in sentiment, that in case of that dreadful event, it might be useful for you to have a house hired in the country; in order to endeavor, by all human precautions, to prevent your falling victims to that terrible disorder. Whereupon Mr. Robert Montgomery, consul of the United States, at Alicant, has been empowered, in case that dreadful event should happen, to furnish sufficient money to pay for the hire of a house, in the manner, and for the purpose you propose. This provisional arrangement to continue in force, until Mr. Montgomery shall receive ulterior instructions from the government of the United States, for continuing or suspending the same.

I entreat you will be persuaded, my dear and unfortunate countrymen, that I receive with great satisfaction the marks of your approbation, of the honest, but ineffectuual efforts I have made in your favor. Would to Heaven, they had been as successful, as they were disinterested and sincere.

I have only to repeat, that you may at all times, and on all occassions, count upon the sympathetic regard, and esteem of your real friend, and affectionate fellow-citizen,

D. HUMPHREYS.

P. S. Though I have repeatedly remarked, that it may perhaps, (for particular rea-

sons) be inexpedient for me to keep up a regular correspondence with you: yet it is proper I should add, that I shall always be glad to hear from you; and that it may be particularly interesting to the government of our country, to receive at the earliest possible period, all intelligence of importance. I shall therefore always be ready to communicate such intelligence, until some nearer, and better channel of communication can be established.

NO. VIII.

Treatment of the American Prisoners at Algiers.

WHILE the people of the United States, anxious to preserve their liberty at home, they cannot be unconcerned at knowing the hard fate of those of their countrymen, who, by being exposed to the severe and perilous duties of the sea, are rendered at the same time obnoxious to, and many of them actually enduring the hard condition of slaves, to the most ferocious enemies to humanity.

Captain Laurence, of the Hull Packet, was desirous of obtaining the best and most authentic information, respecting the condition of his unfortunate countrymen in Algiers, obtained it at Cadiz, and now respectfully lays it before the American people.—The Americans taken by the Algerines, have their heads close shaved; nor are they allowed to wear any kind of covering on the head: they

are entirely stript of their apparel, and a coarse dress given instead of it. At night they are confined in a dungeon, and at day-light led in chains to their usual work, which is generally rigging and fitting ships; some are sent as navigators and pilots on board the cruizers, and are obliged, on pain of punishment, to exert themselves to the utmost of their abilities.

Their food is generally bread and water, nor is the least difference made between sick and well, officers and men, but all treated equally ill. It was reported at Cadiz, that there were several European navigators lately gone among them; particularly one Kelly, who was tried in Dublin for piracy; and that they were determined to scour the western ocean next spring. The Hull Packet left Cadiz with an English fleet, under convoy of a frigate and sloop of war. A few days after leaving that place, two sail passed the fleet, steering in for the Streights, the sloop of war gave chace and spoke them; and captain Laurence was informed they were an Algerine cruizer, and an American ship, her prize.

NO. IX.

List of American Vessels captured by the Algerines.

SHIP Minerva, John M'Shane, Philadelphia, owned by William Bell, 17 men. Ship

President, William Penrose, Philadelphia, owned by John and James Craig, 12 men and a passenger. Ship Hope, John Burnham, New-York, 19 men. Ship Thomas, T. Newman, Boston, owned by Thomas Adams. Brig Jane, Moses Moss, Newburyport, owned by himself, 8 men. Brig Polly, Michael Smith, Newburyport, owned by Bailey and Royce, 9 men. Brig Olive Branch, William Furnace, Portsmouth, owned by Col. Hamilton, 7 men. Brig George, James Taylor, Newport, owned by Gibbs and Channing, 8 men. Schooner Dispatch, William Wallace, Richmond, owned by Gillis and Freeland, 7 men. Schooner Jay, Samuel Calder, Gloucester, owned by E. Parsons. And captain Jackson, from Malaga to America, with fruit.

NO. X.

Disguise thyself as thou wilt, still, Slavery, still thou art a bitter draught.

STERNE.

AND are there so great a number of our countrymen groaning under the merciless scourges of foreign slavery? Confined in a dark and unwholesome dungeon, loaded with galling irons and sighing out their unremitted unavailing complaints, unassisted, unrelieved. The refreshing gales of wind are not permitted to fan their emaciated bodies, nor the cooling water from the springs to

quench their parching thirst. The unrelenting master raises the bloody scourge, and exalts the engine of inhuman barbarity. Vain and fruitless their incessant supplications, their cries are lost in air, and resignation is their only antidote. The most striking pictures, though exhibited by the pencil of a *Hogarth*, affecting indeed to the imagination, yet fall infinitely short of the reality. Their accumulated wretchedness far transcends the power of description. Bereft of every dawn of consolation—filled with excruciating woe, they tremble, faint and sink under the pressure of affliction. Oh, my countrymen, is no resource in store to snatch those of your brethren who are yet living from an ignominious dissolution? Is there no hand to administer the consolatory cordial of redress?—Now is the season to exert our philanthropy—and what occasion so pressing?—what time so proper?

Decius, the humane, benevolent man!—the affectionate parent, the respectable citizen—he who vindicated the sacred cause of Liberty, and adorned society by inflexible honor and probity, whose heart was the receptacle of distinguished virtues—he

'Who had a tear for pity, and a hand
'Open as day for melting charity!'

Behold him cruelly rent from the embraces of a beloved wife—from the arms of his infants—from every object beneath the circling

rays of the sun, that could afford a gleam of momentary joy, and consigned to chains and misery! See him groaning under the burden imposed upon him, and bearing a still heavier weight within. He silently wipes away the involuntary tear which rolls down his emaciated cheek, and struggles to suppress the rising sigh. Follow him when evening approaches into his destined dungeon—Observe the settled melancholy which preys upon his haggard countenance——Restless thought presents to his tortured imagination the happy moments of love and liberty! He now gives free scope to the most impassioned grief, and bewails his cruel destiny—the briny torrent gushes unrestrained from his eyes, and waters the moistened earth.—He exclaims, 'Happy, thrice happy days of former prosperity, gone, gone for ever! My eyes behold no more the ineffable smiles of friendship, or the endearing face of love! All nature is a vale of horror—a howling waste—My dear children—my wife, Oh!' Overwhelmed by heart-rendering anguish, the stupor of insensibility affords him a momentary alleviation! Such scenes of woe audibly demand the interposition of our rulers and citizens—If the yoke of British oppression seemed to us so insupportable—if we resolutely determined to risk our lives in an attempt to throw it off—Remember how vastly dissimilar the comparison betwixt our

then situation and that of those wretched captives—Every exertion should be attempted if possible to emancipate those of our brethren in captivity, who may yet survive. Let us adopt the sentiment of the admirable Rosseau—'No man,' says he, 'can boast of having leisure, while there remains good to be done, his country to serve, or wretches to relieve.'

NO. XI.

Letter from Messrs. WIGNELL and REINAGLE, Managers of the New Theatre, Philadelphia, to JOHN BARCLAY, Esq. chairman of the committee appointed to collect subscriptions for the relief of the prisoners at Algiers.

WE have the pleasure to inclose you a draft for 941 dollars being the profit of one night's performance at our Theatre, the 23d March last, in aid of the fund for the relief of citizens of Philadelphia in captivity at Algiers. A further subscription by the individual members of the company is on foot, and when completed will be forwarded to you. We have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your obedient humble servants, WIGNELL & REINAGLE.

Philadelphia, April 9, 1794.

John Barclay, Esq.

NO. XII.

THE sum of two hundred and fifty-six pounds two shillings and sixpence sterling,

was the amount of the benefit night at the Theatre in Charleston, (s. c.) for the American captives in Algiers, which sum was deposited by Messrs. West and Bignal, in the treasury of that state.

NO. XIII.

Extracts from a 'Poem on the happiness of America,' by Colonel HUMPHREYS.

HOW long will heav'n restrain its bursting ire,
Nor rain blue tempests of devoring fire?
How long shall widows weep their sons in vain,
The prop of years in slav'ry's iron chain?
How long the love-sick maid, unheeded, rove
The sounding shore, and call her absent love;
With wasting tears and sighs his lot bewail,
And seem to see him in each coming sail?
How long the merchant turn his failing eyes,
In desperation, on the seas and skies,
And ask his captur'd ships, his ravish'd goods,
With frantic ravings, of the heav'ns and floods?
How long, Columbians dear! will ye complain
Of these curst insults on the open main?
In timid sloth, shall injur'd brav'ry sleep?
Awake! awake! avengers of the deep!
Revenge! revenge! the voice of nature cries:
Awake to glory, and to vengeance rise!
To arms! to arms! ye bold indignant bands!
'Tis heav'n inspires; 'tis God himself commands.

Save human nature from such deadly harms,
By force of reason, or by force of arms.
O ye great pow'rs, who passports basely crave,
From Afric's lords to sail the midland wave—
Great fall'n pow'rs, whose gems and golden bribes
Buy paltry passports from these savage tribes—
Ye, whose fine purples, silks, and stuffs of gold
(An annual tribute) their dark limbs infold—
Ye, whose mean policy for them equips,
To plague mankind, the predatory ships—
Why will you buy your infamy so dear?
Is it self-int'rest, or a dastard fear?
Is it because ye meanly think to gain
A richer commerce on the infested main?
Is it because ye meanly wish to see
Your rivals chain'd, yourselves ignobly free?
Who gave commissions to these monsters fierce,
To hold in chains the humbled universe?
Would God, would nature, would their conqu'ring swords, [lords?
Without your meanness, make them ocean's
What! Do you fear? nor dare their pow'r provoke? [stroke?
Would not that bubble burst beneath your
And shall the weak remains of barb'rous rage,
Insulting, triumph o'er the enlighten'd age?
Do ye not feel confusion, horror, shame,
To bear a hateful, tributary name?

Will ye not aid to wipe the foul disgrace,
And break the fetters from the human race?
Then, tho' unaded by those mighty pow'rs,
Ours be the toil, the dangers, glory ours:
Then, O my friends, by heav'n ordain'd to free,
From tyrant rage the long infested sea—
Then let us firm, though solitary stand,
The sword, and olive-branch in either hand:
An equal peace propose with reason's voice,
Or rush to arms, if arms should be their choice.
But hark! the trumps, as if by whirlwinds blown, [zone!
Sound from cold Lawrence to the burning
Thy cause, humanity, that swells their breath,
Wakes in each bosom cool contempt of death,
By rumbling drums, from distant regions call'd, (pall'd:
Men, scorning pirate rage, start unap-
With eye-balls flaming, cheeks of crimson flush, (tains, rush
From rice-green fields, and fir-clad moun-
High-mettled youth—unus'd to sights of slain,
Of hostile navies, or the stormy main—
Enrag'd, they leave unfinish'd furrows far,
To dare the deep, and toil in fields of war:
From dreams of peace, stern-visag'd vet'rans wake, (shake;
Their rattling arms, with grasp indignant,
Those arms, their pride, their country's gift, what day
To independence they had op'd the way;

Frowning wide ruin, terrible they rise,
Like battling thunders bursting from the skies.
From Erie's inland vales, unnam'd in song,
In native fierceness pour the hunter throng;
Beneath their rapid march realms roll behind; (the wind;
Their uncomb'd locks loose floating on
Coarse their worn garbs—they place their only pride
In the dread rifle, oft in battle tried.
With aim unbaulk'd, whose leaden vengeance sings,
Sure as the dart the king of terrors flings:
So erst, brave Morgan, thy bold hunters sped— (led,
Such light-arm'd youths the gallant Fayette
Ere Steuben brought the Prussian lore from far,
Or Knox created all the stores of war.
Thro' tented fields impatient ardor spreads—
Rous'd by the trump the coursers rear their heads,
Snuff in the tainted gale the sulph'rous grain,
Responsive neigh, and prance the wide champaign.
Now preparation forms the gleaming blade;
In moulds capacious pond'rous deaths are made:
In crouded docks th' incessant labor glows;
The tool resounds—the wond'rous structure grows—

Propp'd on the stocks, stupendous navies stand,
Raise their huge bulks, and darken all the strand;
Till tow'ring fleets, from different harbors join'd
Float on the pinions of the fav'ring wind;
Tall groves of masts, like mountain forests, rise;
Wav'd high in air, the crimson streamer flies:
To prosp'rous gales the canvass wide unfurl'd
Bears the rous'd vengeance round the wat'ry world:
See! ocean whitens with innum'rous sails;
Be still, ye storms! breathe soft, ye friendly gales!
See! where Columbia's mighty squadron runs
To climes illum'd by other stars and suns;
Gains the deep streight; ascends the midland wave,
Of ancient fleets th' unfathomable grave!
When freedom's ardent chiefs, with eager eye,
Dim thro' the mist the corsair force descry;
Their cloudlike sails hang in the distant heav'n,
Like shad'wy vapors of ascending ev'n—
Here o'er the topmast, flames th' imperial star,
There the red crescent leads the coming war.
Th' obstructions clear'd—obliquely on the gales— [sails—
With open ports—half-furl'd the flapping

Near the more near athwart the bill'wy tide,
In terrors arm'd, the floating bulwarks glide;
Tier pil'd o'er tier, the sleeping thunder lies,
Anon to rend the shud'ring main and skies.
Ere yet they shut the narrow space between,
Begins the prelude of a bloodier scene—
With sudden touch, deep-throated engines roar, [waves to shore;
Pierce heav'n's blue vault, and dash the
Then mad'ning billows mock the fearful sound,
While o'er their surface globes of iron bound;
Unknow concussions rolling o'er their heads,
Far fly the monsters round their coral beds.
The battlee closes—fiercer fight begin—
And hollow hulls reverberate the din:
The green waves blacken, as the tempest lours, [show'rs;
Chain bolts and langrage rain in dreadful
Ship lock'd to ship, hangs o'er the foaming flood, [blood:
The back sides wrapt in flame, the deck in
From both the lines now smoke, now flames aspire, [fire:
Now clouds they roll, now gleam a ridge of
On hostile prows, Columbia's heroes stand,
Conqu'ring 'mid death, or dying sword in hand:
Promiscuous cries, with shouts confus'dly drown'd,
In the wild uproar, swell the dol'rous sound:
And nought distinct is heard, and nought is seen,
Where wreaths of vapour hov'ring intervene,

Save when black grains expand imprison'd air,
The thunders wake, and shoot a livid glare:
Then ghastly forms are seen by transient gleams, [streams.
The dead and wounded drench'd in purple
Now helmless ships in devious routes are driv'n,
The cordage torn, the masts to atoms riv'n:
Now here they glow with curling waves of fire,
In one explosion total crews expire.
Here barks relinquish'd burnt to ocean's brink,
Half veil'd in crimson clouds begin to sink.
With men submerg'd, there frailer fragments float,
Here yawning gulfs absorb th' o'erloaded boat:
There red-hot balls, that graze the waters, hiss,
And plunge the gallies down the dread abyss.
Here shatter'd limbs—there garments dipt in blood,
With mingling crimson stain the foughten flood,
While Afric's pirates shrinking from the day,
By terror urg'd, drag wounded hulks away.
As when two adverse storms impetuous driv'n,
From east and west, sail up the azure heav'n,
In flaming fields of day together run,
Explode their fires, and blot with night the sun—

The eastern cloud, its flames expir'd at last,
Flies from the light'ning of the western blast:
So fled the corsair line the blightning stroke
Of freedom's thunder–so their battle broke–
As if by heav'n's own arm subdu'd at length,
Their courage perish'd, wither'd all their strength.
Oh then let vict'ry stimulate the chace,
To free from shameful chains the human race,
To drive these 'pirates from th' insulted waves,
To ope their dungeons to despairing slaves,
To snatch from impious hands and break the rod,
Which erst defac'd the likeness of a God:
Then seize th' occasion, call the furious gales,
Crack bending oars, stretch wide inflated sails;
On rapid wings of wind the tempest bear,
Make death's deep tubes with lured lightnings glare:
Like evanescent mists dispel their hosts,
And with destruction's bosom sweep their coasts.
Woe to proud Algiers; to your princes woe!
Your pride is falling with your youths laid low.
Woe to ye people, woe, distress, and fears!
Your hour is come to drink the cup of tears:
A ghastly paleness gathers on your cheeks,

While mem'ry haunts your ears with captive
shrieks ;
Then stifled conscience wak'ning dares to cry,
' Think on your crimson crimes, despair and
die.'—
Then ruin comes, with fire, and sword, and
blood,
And men shall ask, where once your cities
stood !
And lo ! successful from heroic toils,
With glory cover'd, and enrich'd with spoils,
With garlands waving o'er these spoils of war,
The pomp preceded by th' imperial star,
'Mid shouts of joy, from liberated slaves,
In triumph ride th' avengers of the waves.
And see they gain Columbia's happy strand,
Where anxious crouds in expectation stand.
See raptur'd nations hail the kindred race,
And court the heroes to their fond embrace :
In fond embraces strain'd, the captive clings,
And feels and looks unutterable things.
See there the widow finds her darling son,
See in each others' arms the lovers run,
With joy tumultuous their swoll'n bosoms
glow,
And one short moment pays for years of woe ;
When grateful sports and festal songs pro-
claim,
Their joys domestic, and their distant fame.

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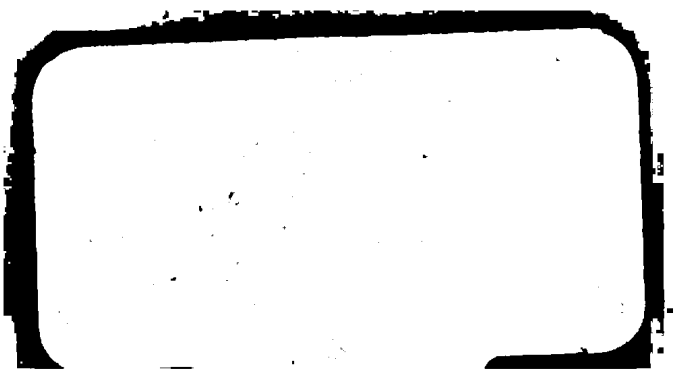
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